THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

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Saint Leo's College Bowl team wins fourth place

BY KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Editor in Chief

Saint Leo University's College Bowl team performed the best in the team's history and had the fifth highest scoring player during a recent competition.

The College Bowl team finished in fourth place in a three-way tie during their seventh appearance at the ACU-I Regional College Bowl Tournament competition at Jacksonville University on February 22 and 23.

The top four teams in the competition went into the final rounds. Saint Leo was in a three way tie for fourth place, but lost their final bid into the finals because one team they had tied with beat them by ten points.

"Coming in fourth place this year was hard, because we lost to the advancing team by 10 points. Overall, though, we had a great time competing," said team member, Colleen Shanahan.

This year the team had the highest scores in Saint Leo College Bowl history. They had a 450 to150 triumph over Shorter College, and a 375 to 170 victory over Berry College. Saint Leo's team also boasted the fifth highest scoring player, freshman Jonathan Till, throughout the competition.

"I like being in an organization that encourages me to learn. Here, I am able to showcase trivia that others don't think much of," said Shanahan.

Photograph by Dr. Kevin Kieffer

College Bowl team from left to right: Colleen Shanahan, Jonathan Till, Cassie Millhouse, James Samolowicz, Alan Borock, and coach Dr. Kevin Kieffer.

For people who do not know what the College Bowl is, it is a fast paced academic trivia game requiring quick recall. The competition consists of many different topics from, math and science, to literature and art, to pop culture and music.

"The level of competition is so tough at the college/NCAA level, the competitions are very fast paced and completely intense," said Dr. Kevin Kieffer, associate professor and chair of the Department of Psychology.

Although the number of students allowed on the team is limitless, only five students compete in the competition. This year's competition players were Captain Alan Borock, James Samolowicz, Colleen Shanahan, Cassie Millhouse, and Jonathan Till.

Saint Leo played eight other teams and competed in eight games on Friday and Saturday with a final score of 3-5 in their competition for the Region Six championship crown, known as the "Carper Cup."

"Players gain any number of experiences from competing on the team from expanding their knowledge to meeting other students and visiting other college campuses. Students are able to apply the knowledge that they are learning in the classroom to this fast-paced academic competition," said Kieffer.

More than 300 higher education institutions participated in the 2008 College Bowl. To be eligible to play for the College Bowl, students have to be registered for at least three credit hours during the fall and spring semesters of the academic year.

"My favorite part of this, [College Bowl] though, is the team itself. The team is really laid back, and they are just a blast to be around. Nothing beats the annual quiz bowl trips. I have made some great memories and friends through this," said Shanahan.

The team practices once a week and played in two competitions this year.

"Playing on the college bowl team is a wonderful way to live our Saint Leo University core values of Excellence, Integrity, and Personal Development. The Saint Leo team has always been know as one of the

COLLEGE BOWL CON'T PAGE 3

Tax rebate reaches mailboxes this June

BY AMANDA CAIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Starting in May, the United States Treasury will begin sending economic stimulus payments to more than 130 million individuals, but will that money have any effect on the students of Saint Leo University?

According to *USA Today*, under the economic stimulus package approved by both houses of Congress on February 7, 2008, the stimulus payments will go out through the late spring and summer. Those who are eligible will receive checks for a minimum of $300. The rebate will be based on a taxpayer's 2007 tax return and income information.

The Economic Stimulus Act was the first piece of major tax legislation in 2008. The Act basically provides that all taxpayers will receive a one-time rebate sometime in mid-2008. The rebates are referred to as "stimulus payments" by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and can be received by mail or through direct deposit.

The tax rebate is referred to as "stimulus payment" because it is designed to encourage recipients to spend money and thus stimulate the economy. According to the Democratic Policy Committee, the stimulus payments help the economy in several ways. For one, the return will put hundreds of dollars into the hands of millions of American families who will spend the money immediately to help reinvigorate the economy. The rebate will also help families avoid foreclosure by expanding financing opportunities for Americans in danger of losing their homes because of the mortgage crisis. Neighborhoods negatively and greatly affected by foreclosures and declining house prices should become stabilized by the extra money. Lastly, the stimulus payments will help promote job-creating business investments, particularly for small businesses. The tax relief coming to American business should encourage investment making and company growth, which would, in return, create more jobs for the unemployed.

The amount of money each individual will receive differs: Unmarried persons will receive $600 and married couples will receive $1,200 total. An additional $300 will also be given for each child who is under 17 and is claimed as a dependent on the tax return form.

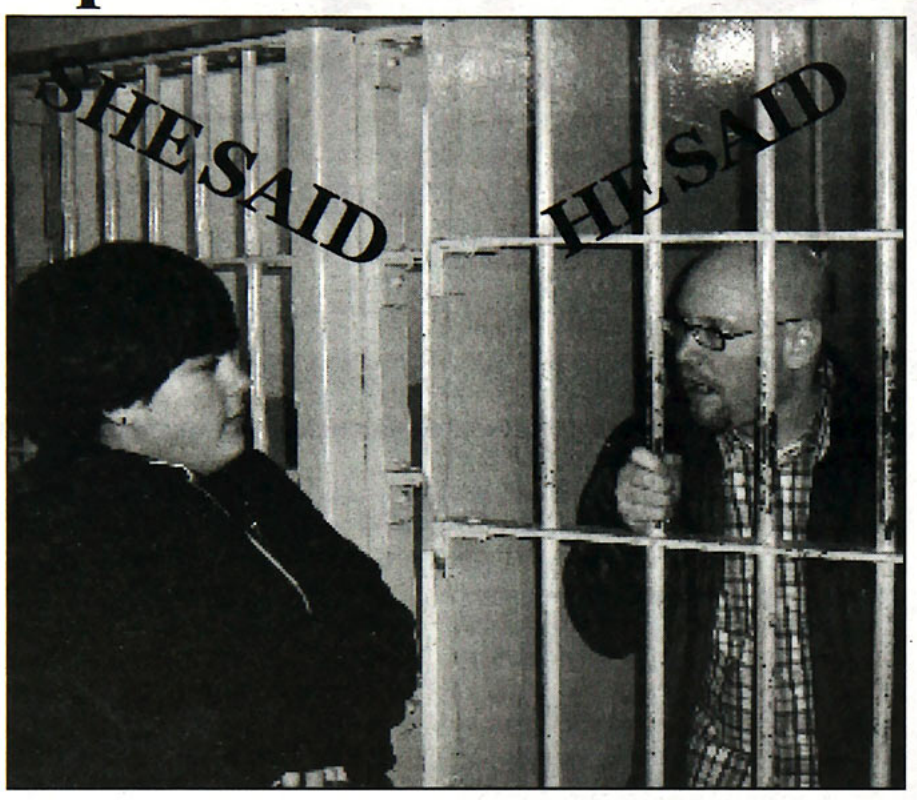
While the idea of an extra chunk of change in the bank probably excites most, for many college students, that extra cash will never be received. According to *USA Today*, under the law, anyone who is claimed as a dependent on someone else's 2007 tax return is ineligible for the rebate. In other terms, college students whose parents have already reported them as a dependent in 2007 are not eligible to receive the tax rebate. This even applies to those students who earned at least $3,000 in 2007.

Some students aren't are happy with this decision.

"I work hard and support myself," said sophomore Tiffany Challies. "But just because my mom claims me

TAX REB CON'T PAGE 3

Opinions



Tax rebate amounts to income redistribution

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

In a few short months, unmarried Americans who make under $75,000 a year will receive a tax "rebate" from the federal government. It is meant to stimulate the economy. In reality, it is little more than a feel good measure that effectively amounts to socialistic income redistribution.

If the government wanted to "give" taxpayers money to spend, they could just as easily do it by letting us keep more of our money in the first place. I'd take a 1% tax cut over a $300 check any day.

No, tax cuts are not the kind of stimulus the Democrat-controlled Congress is interested in. Rather than giving the money back to the people who pay the taxes, they are giving huge amounts of taxpayer money to people who effectively do not pay taxes under the current income tax structure. In Washington, they call that "stimulating the economy." In middle class homes, it's called "income redistribution."

The idea that the infusion of government (that is, taxpayer) cash into the economy will somehow strengthen it is bunk. Economist Robert Higgs describes the current tax rebate idea as "like taking a bucket of water from the deep end of a pool and dumping it in the shallow end, on the assumption that the water level will rise." When Washington says "short-term stimulus," they mean "fooling people into believing they are fixing the economy."

The government hopes people will spend the tax rebate money on goods and services, thus bolstering the economy. Many people, however, will use the money to pay down their credit card debt. Others will use the money to offset the high gas prices—the goods they'll be buying are gallons of gasoline. Does more money for the oil companies really translate into a stronger economy?

Probably not. But here's a little secret you probably haven't heard before: we are not in a recession. We are nowhere near a recession. We're being told the economy is bad not because our economy has stopped growing but because the growth has *slowed*. The economy is simply going through a correction, which is what all healthy economies do.

So, why are we being "given" money from the government? It could be that this drastic measure is being taken to solidify in people's minds the idea that the economy is tanking. We'll think, "Jeez, the economy is so bad, the government is actually *giving* us our own money back. Head for the hills! Recession is nigh!"

And who profits from recession? Who profits when the public begins to believe the lie that government can "solve" recessions? Who wins when tax money from the "rich" (that is, anyone who makes $75,000 or more) is given to the "poor" (that is, anyone who makes $75,000 or less)?

You guessed it: the Democratic Party, the party of big

REDISTRIBUTION CON'T PAGE 4

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Rebates depend on dependents!

BY KATIE GAISER
Lions' Pride Layout Editor

Finally, the money-hungry, manipulative monster we call the American government will be returning a portion of our hard earned tax dollars to our mailboxes - unless you are a college student claimed as a dependent, that is.

You heard me right my fellow classmates. If your parents claimed you as a dependant in the 2007 tax year, then you are no longer eligible for this rebate check, regardless of how much money you made this year.

Under the Economic Stimulus Act, the first piece of tax legislation in 2008, unmarried citizens filing income taxes this season making at least $3,000 and no more than $75,000 will receive a $600 rebate check. Married couples who do not exceed $150,000 will receive $1,200, with an additional $300 per child under the age of 17. Even those who aren't required to file income taxes, such as a portion of the elderly, will receive a check of about $300. This money will amount to a total of $120 billion distributed to those who qualify. But unfortunately for most college students, they won't be seeing a dime of it.

I, for one, think denying dependent college students this money is one of the stupidest decisions the government has made. The point of this "stimulus act" is to do just that, stimulate the economy. The idea is that when these qualifying citizens receive their rebate checks, they will turn around and spend them on various consumer needs and in turn, boost the economy. However, can the government really guarantee these people will spend the money the way they want them to? Of course not, and that's where I see the flaw.

In an age where the total amount of U.S. Federal debt caps at $9.3 trillion, or about $79,000 per American taxpayer, I can't see anyone receiving their refund checks and spending them on a lush 7-day cruise to the Caribbean. These people aren't stupid, and they are going to put their money where it most needs to be spent. And with the average American family making only about $48,000 a year, it's safe to say there are many who are forced to use help from the government with less and less ability to repay.

This got me thinking. If all of this money is likely going to paying off these debts, as it rightfully should, what is the government going to do when their plan backfires? Well have no fear my government, for I am here to solve all your problems with one simple suggestion. If you want your citizens to put this money back into the economy, why not put some of it in the hands of people who *know* how to blow money. College students, Mr. President! College students!

We are probably the best when it comes to spending money on mindless crap. Think of all the money college students spend on electronics, entertainment, alcohol, gas, condoms,

DEPENDENTS CON'T PAGE 4

Letter to the Editor:

It was written in the last edition that some students were disappointed in CAB not going to Muvico on the 15th of every month this year. CAB just wanted to let the students know that we hear their concerns and are currently working on adding 1-2 Muvico trips to our calendar. We also wanted to let the students know why this decision was made in the start of the year. Many students expressed they wanted more programs on campus and more things to do here, so we went to action. This is why instead of going to Muvico we brought great programs to our campus like Think Fast, Deal or No Deal, Crystallize Yourself Forever, and X-Tream air which most have not been done before at Saint Leo. Additionally, with the high cost of bus rentals and Muvico Tickets we brought movies on campus, shown in Selby before they where even released to DVD, not last year movies as stated. Also, for the students attending CAB Movie Nights, it has been a great escape from their academics for them. CAB is really excited about its strong success this year holding over 34 programs this Academic year to date. We have increased the amount of Bingo's to once a month and have broken attendance records all year; one bingo had almost 300 students! Feedback has been incredibly high (over 90% of response saying on a scale of 1-5 (5 being highest) that we programmed a 4 or better. CAB is always looking how to meet the demand the students and adjust to their wants and love to hear student's feedback. This is why we created our own facebook group; we also use this to advertise for all of our events.

Ryan Regensdorfer, Vice President of Activities- Student Government Union

WRITE HERE

The Lions' Pride newsroom is located in portable #4, which is on the west side of St. Edward's Hall. Our phone number is (352) 588-8195. Send letters to the editor to The Lions' Pride: 33701 State Road 52 Saint Leo, FL 33574 or email us at lions.pride@saintleo.edu. Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department. Please include a phone number (not a publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters are subject to editing. *The Lions' Pride* reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

Positions Available

The Lions' Pride is currently interviewing for the following positions for the 2008-2009 school year. The editorial board will be conducting interviews from 3/16- 3/22. E-mail Kristin.Brittain@saintleo.edu if you are interested.

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- Copy Editor
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Tutors wanted for boys in need

BY AMANDA CAIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

With the recent increase in residency, the San Antonio Boys Village (SABV) is looking to the students of Saint Leo University for volunteer tutors ready to give back to the community.

According to the mission statement, the goal of the SABV is to help the troubled boys who reside there with putting their lives back together just as a broken slingshot, the SABV emblem, can be mended with experience, time, and patience. The broken slingshot symbolizes the problems experienced by the youth the SABV serves.

The SABV has long been an important and historic landmark in the local community. The facility was created to help chronically delinquent adolescent boys learn from the mistakes they made early in their lives. The youth held at the facility are taught how to discontinue their law violating habits through behavior modification counseling, school, therapeutic groups, and routine. The lessons they learn at the Village are meant to hopefully prevent any further involvement in either the juvenile justice system or the adult corrections program.

Some of the key functions of the Boys Village include strengthening the family unit, clarifying and establishing values, teaching responsibility for one's own actions, developing social skills, and enhancing each boy's concept of self. The Village offers many benefits to those who choose to take the program seriously . These benefits include job and vocational skills training and chances to earn community service hours to help pay off their debts to society.

Education at the Boys Village is one of the most important functions the facility can offer. The instructors at the SABV work incredibly hard every day in an effort to give the boys the best chance for success they can have once they leave. When residency is fairly low, the boys usually benefit from plenty of personal attention and assistance. Recently, however, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of boys held at the village. Because of this, the individual care needed by each boy can't realistically always be met.

The San Antonio Boys Village is in great need of student volunteers for the boys. The Village is reaching out to the students of Saint Leo to help in its effort to re-educate and rehabilitate the troubled youthes.

"In the 6 months we have these boys, we find that many have never been in a classroom for more than a few weeks. These boys are very behind and it's part of our job to bring them up to date as much as possible. Tutoring provides the kind of one-on-one attention these kids need. That way, they can work at their own pace and level without being embarrassed or pressured," commented Executive Director Al Capodiferro.

Tutors are needed in both reading and math. Tutors can usually work at the Boys Village anytime after 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Saint Leo used to have several volunteer tutors give their time to the Village, but now there is no one. Although the work is unpaid, the hours can be recorded as countable community service hours for those in need.

"A person volunteering with the boys needs to have a lot of compassion, understanding, and patience. They need to be sensitive to the fact that all of these boys need one-on-one support to build their confidence," said Case Manager Edward Hetterich.

The San Antonio Boys Village is a private, nonprofit residential treatment center in existence since August 1973. SABV works with boys ages 13-17 and has 24-hour adult supervision. Anyone interested in becoming a tutor at the Village, can contact Mr. Messor or Mr. Capodiferro at (352) 588-3786 to set up an interview or get more information about this opportunity.

COLLEGE BOWL CON'T PAGE 1

"classiest" teams at tournaments, and I teach players to respect other teams and to be humble in victory and defeat as many of the other teams poorly represent their universities," said Kieffer.

The college bowl team offers students more then just trivia lessons; it gives students an opportunity to be part of a team.

"By joining quiz bowl, I believe I have finally learned how a team works. Here, each team member has the opportunity to shine for an individual question. Though, from that, the team gets a chance to work together to figure out the bonus answer. We depend on each other through each match," said Shanahan.

College Bowl is a 54-year-old academic competition that is a popular tradition on America's campuses. Saint Leo's college bowl team is an opportunity for students on campus to learn trivia as well as teamwork.

TAX REB CON'T FROM PAGE 1

because I live under her roof, I can't get my hard earned money back? That makes about as much sense as giving free education to illegal immigrants in California."

With seniors graduating in May, many will be looking to be employed, and hopefully the stimulus payments will incite the economy and help create the amount of new jobs projected. So, even though most students at Saint Leo are not going to directly benefit from this year's tax return, the indirect and long-term benefits are just as important.

Business school building still in design phase

BY JESSICA SWANSON
Lions' Pride Copy Editor

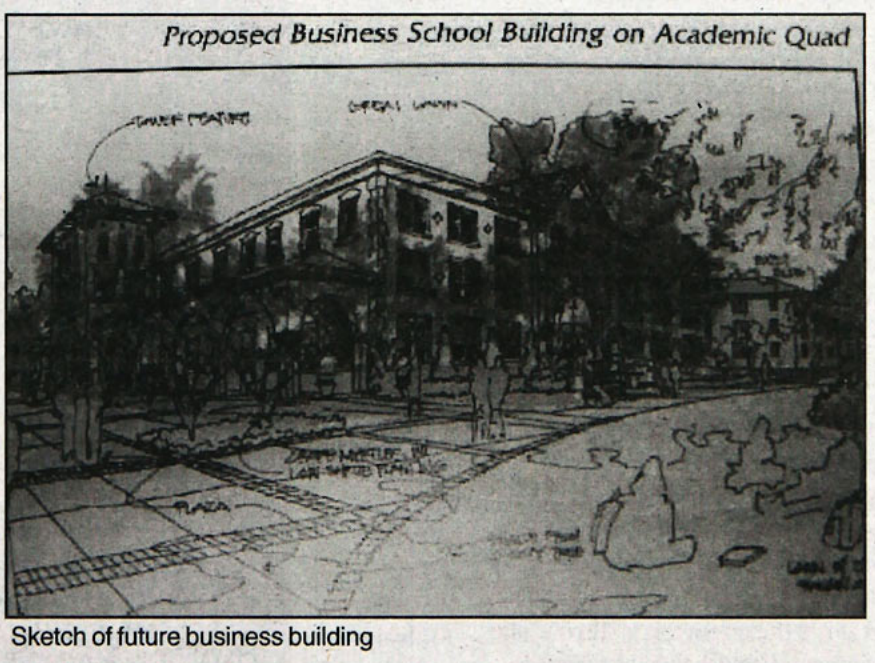
Since the completion of the Student Community Center earlier this year, there have been rumors that a new Business School building is soon to follow. However, this is not the case.

Dr. Frank Mezzanini, vice president of business, emphasized that building and completion of the Business School is still "a few years out."

Despite its design production in 2004 (pictured right) along with the Student Community Center, the proposed construction date for the Business School is at the earliest somewhere between 2010 and 2011. Construction is expected to take anywhere from a year to 15 months to complete.

The Business School will be built in the area between Saint Edwards Hall and Crawford Hall, where the current tennis parking and surrounding grassy area is. It will *not* be replacing the admissions building as some students may have come to believe.

Proposed Business School Building on Academic Quad



Sketch of future business building

Students may also rest assure there will not be a significant tuition increase in the future due to the Business School's construction. Instead, there is a proposed plan to finance construction solely through donation.

One of the main purposes of the Business School's construction is to fulfill the need for classroom space. In addition to classrooms, the Business School is expected to have conference rooms and office spaces as well.

Even though the Business School won't be appearing anytime soon, students can look forward to a beautiful new building on campus in the future.

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Wendy Geer
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Saint Leo University speaker series presents: Jennifer Rothschild "The Friendship of Adversity"

BY CHELSEA GRANT
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

On February 26, the Saint Leo University speaker series hosted "The Friendship of Adversity" by bestselling author, musician, and motivational speaker Jennifer Rothschild, who was diagnosed with Retinitis Pigmentosa, a rare degenerative eye disease at the age of 15. She eventually became blind from the disease and tells how she used the adversity of her blindness to find inner strength. "Adversity can become our friend" was the main point of her inspirational message.

In the beginning of the program, Rothschild shared how she overcame one her biggest obstacles as a young woman: attending college. She used this story to explain to the audience that adversity can be a friend or enemy, and if it's the enemy, it will win. She further emphasizes that adversity allows one to see the beautiful "diminished" self. Rothschild states there are two major benefits of a friendship with adversity: 1) introduces people to themselves, and 2) introduces people to God.

"Adversity can expose weakness to let the strength within you grow," quoted Rothschild as she briefly discussed how the Apostle Paul faced his adversities through faith in God.

Another interesting part of her message was how adversity can introduce people to others facing an even bigger obstacle.

In the final parts of her message, she gives three steps for dealing with a lingering adversary: 1) cry when hurt, 2) always trust God more than your own feelings, and 3) choose loyalty over logic: Choose to be loyal to God even when it doesn't make sense. Many members of the audience expressed their sense of inspiration by her story.

Jennifer Rothschild

Photo courtesy of Rothchild's Website

"It was very inspirational and humbling…I am definitely going to take her advice and form a friendship with my adversities," said Junior Chenelia Valerio.

The event radiated a warm sense of hope and faith to succeed through life's many obstacles. A signing of her newest book, *Self, Talk Soul Talk: What to Say When You Talk to Yourself,* also took place after the presentation.

REDISTRIB CON'T FROM PAGE 4

government, of government welfare, of income redistribution, and of socialism. You are being given some of your own money back as a "gift" from the government, and, if you are like most people I've spoken with on this issue, you couldn't be happier with the "gift" your government is giving you. You may think it's a gift of money, but it's actually the gift of dependence on the government. The message of this tax rebate is that government can save us from a recession, a recession that doesn't even exist.

For those of you who are receiving a rebate, have fun spending my tax dollars.

DEPENDENTS CON'T FROM PAGE 1

and pretty things for our rooms. Our pockets are the ones you should be filling with this money. And who's to say we dependents don't deserve this money anyway? Most people I know worked hard for their $3,000 last year, and had taxes taken out just like everyone else. Why are we excluded when we are contributing to the American workforce, as well as the government? Perhaps instead of denying dependents, the government should include them and see what happens. This way, they'd have a higher chance of success.

To sum up, I don't understand why the government would avoid using such a valuable tool to fix their problems. They are already using the rest of the population by trying to manipulate them into spending their own money his way. To me, using college students to spend money is simply obvious. But, I guess even the top dogs can't be the brightest crayons in the box. Hopefully, they won't regret it.

Getting off campus isn't easy...Or is it?

BY SIMONE WILLIAMS
Lions' Pride Assistant Editor

Sometimes, Leoland can get a bit boring. And, not everyone on campus has a car. So, for those wishing to be freed from the confines of boredom, never fear! There are a plethora of ways to get off campus or enjoy campus, most of them under $10.

A student's best friend is her resident assistant. RAs are hired to do more than keep peace between roommates, put in work orders for the leaky bathroom ceiling, and offer a shoulder to cry on. RAs are also available for helping their residents stay entertained.

"RAs have to do at least two programs a month. One must incorporate a Core Value; the other is just for social reasons," said Senior and RA Lizzie Seedhouse.

Seedhouse is the RA for first floor Alumni and an expert at keeping her residents happy. She's been an RA for three years and has a lot of experience. She says it's easy to get off campus. All a student has to do is approach her RA.

"Yeah, I enjoy spending time with my residents," said Seedhouse. "If they want to get off campus, I can incorporate something they'd like to do into one of my programs. Like, say for instance, one of my residents wants to go to that Mexican restaurant down the street or someplace like Applebee's. If they can get at least five of them rounded up, I can turn that idea into a program."

It really is that simple. Seedhouse would set a date, make flyers, and post a sign-up sheet on her door. If enough people sign up, they can all get someone who is van certified to drive them. But, the driver must be van certified and the van booked at least a week in advance.

"Students can get van certified. They just have to go to Human Resources and take a test. You know, to make sure they can drive," Seedhouse said. "Human Resources does it. Students have to submit their license number to get a background check. If they have too many points on their license, they can't get certified. It's not hard, really. I'm trying to get certified."

Of course, students have to pay for themselves, but getting a free ride out of it isn't so bad. And, students aren't just limited to restaurants. The reason why it's important to fill out those seemingly random surveys given out by the RA's is to alert them, as well as other organizations on campus, to what the student body is interested in.

Another resource students should tap into is the Greek organizations. Fraternities and sororities are usually having some party. That's not to say all Greek organizations are party animals. But, they do usually host some sort of get together, whether it is on or off campus. Students should always be on the lookout for those boys in red and black. TKE has some of the most entertaining Monster endorsed sports games and parties.

CAB, or Campus Activities Board, is always hosting some interesting event. February 23 was the Medieval Times Dinner Show, a popular show in Orlando. CAB had $5 sign-ups starting on February 11; tickets usually go for around $57. And, CAB always provides transportation. Including the first floor of Marmion and Snyder and in the Student Community Center, an activities calendar hangs everywhere on campus, so finding something inexpensive to do off campus isn't as hard as it may seem.

Leo lions remember "common ancestor"

BY THOMAS SCAGLIONE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Picture this: it's summer time and you take a trip to an island on the equator to get some sun and waves. The sand is burning beneath your naked feet, and the vague outline of a distant volcano sits in the background. The unexpected cawing of some avian relation coming from the waterline draws your attention and you turn around to see . . .a raft of penguins?! This is the same sense of shock that evolutionist Charles Darwin would have experienced in his travels to the Galapagos Islands in 1835 when he noticed the very same oddity.

Recently, some of the Saint Leo University faculty and student body took a voyage to the famed volcanic islands, located just off the northwest bank of mainland South America, in homage to one of the founders of modern scientific thought. Dr. Chris Miller, assistant professor of biology/environmental science at SLU, organized a summary of their trip that was open for the whole student body on February 21. The invigorating powerpoint and accompanying lecture, entitled "SLU discovers the Galapagos…172 years after Darwin," attracted numerous students and faculty.

Miller, who's recently researching the use of palm trees in developing countries, kept the feel of the presentation somewhere between a standup comedy routine and an exciting Discovery Channel program, mixing jokes with education to remind the audience that science is fun and encompasses many fields of study.

Darwin joined Captain Robert Fitzroy of the H.M.S. Beagle on its second voyage from 1831-1836. Fitzroy, coming from a long line of hereditary depression and consequential suicides, originally sought out Darwin for intellectual company during their long travels. Unfortunately, Darwin never got over his seasickness, so one can only wonder how much time was spent diving into the depths of human intellect and not diving headfirst in the nearest bucket.

During their trips to the Galapagos Islands, for which they stayed just over a month, Darwin found many interesting specimens and, being the collector he was, brought them back for study. The differences of many of the specimens, such as the ranging beak shapes of finches and the shape and size of the diverse tortoises shells, led Darwin to his idea of descent with modification.

Since each island provided a unique environment, the animals and plants evolved differently. This could be seen in Miller's example of Prickly Pear Cacti. On some islands, the plant grows short to the ground, while on other islands, it grows taller than a human body! Using many similar examples, Darwin was able to come up with his theory of adaptive radiation.

Although Saint Leo stayed for about ten days on the island, they came across many of the same species and characteristics that were observed by Darwin, including the way the iguanas compete for food, the land-based nests of the blue-footed boobies, and the existence of penguins on the equator. Miller, perhaps because the animals have never evolved to fear humans, was able to get close enough to the animals to capture shots worthy for National Geographic.

The islands, which are perhaps the most photographed places on Earth, set a beautiful backdrop to a very intriguing (and leading) field of science. With an eclectic and perpetually changing world, it's no wonder why Darwin's theories (admittedly they have been tweaked) still fascinate many scientists today.

Considering a Career in Physical Therapy?

The President and Faculty of the University of St. Augustine cordially invite you to attend an Information Session to learn more about a Physical Therapy distance-learning program in Boca Raton, Florida. This program will enable you to earn a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree by taking online coursework and attending clinical sessions in Boca Raton two weekends or less per month. If you have earned or are currently completing a bachelor's degree and want to pursue a career in physical therapy, come learn about the convenience and flexibility of distance learning while continuing your present employment.

Thursday, March 13, 2008
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Check-in begins at 6:30
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Arts & Entertainment

Jumper jumps on the screen in a flash

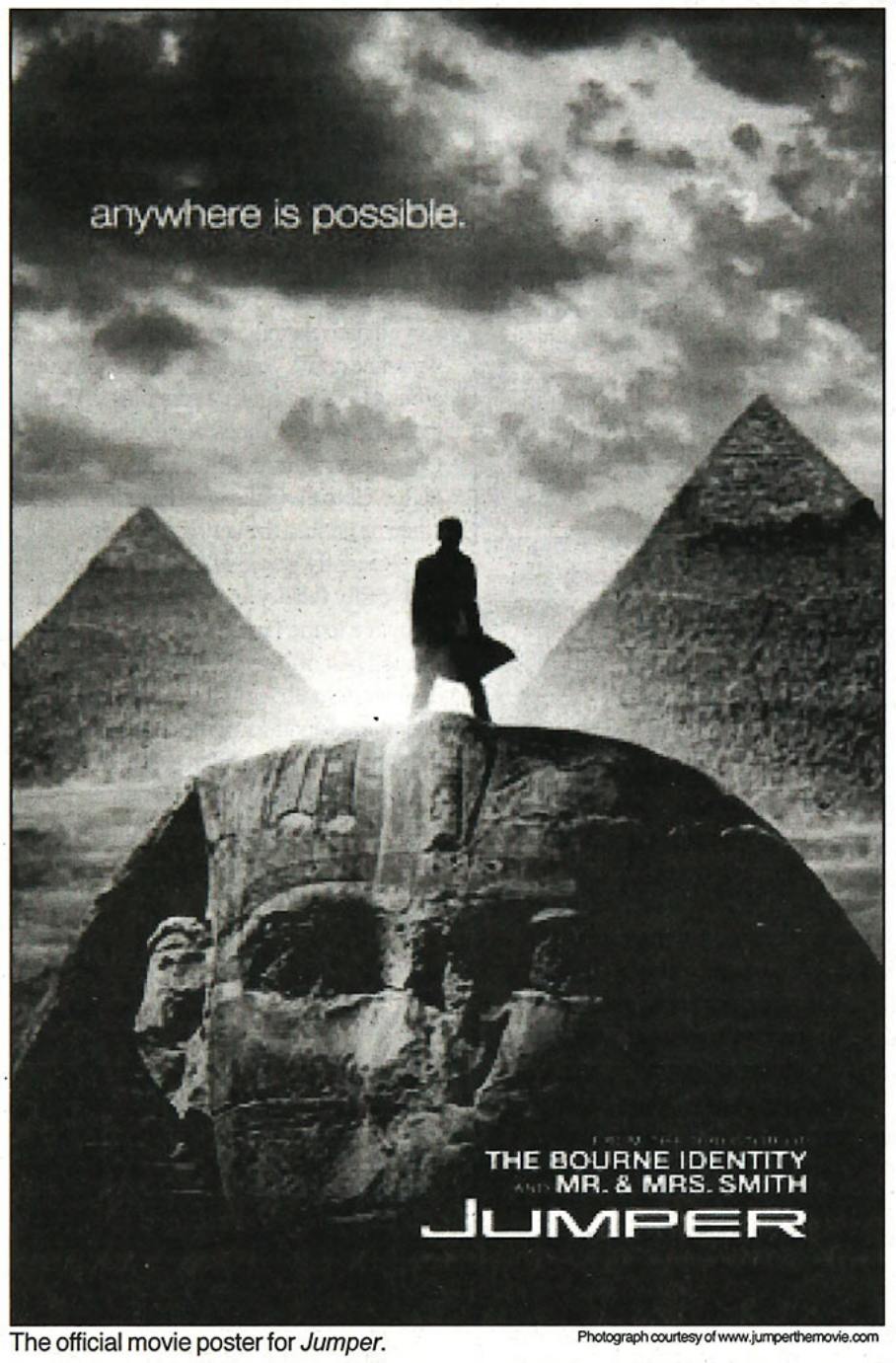
BY SIMONE WILLIAMS
Lions' Pride Assistant Editor

Valentine's Day is the perfect day for couples wishing to spend quality time together, typically consisting of dinner, a movie, and maybe a little lovin' after. But, those who rushed to see *Jumper* on this love day should have gone to see something a little more stimulating. Steven Gould's minor classic novel *Jumper* came out as a half-baked movie on Thursday, February 14.

David Rice, played by Hayden Christensen, is a wealthy young man with a genetic defect that allows him to teleport himself anywhere in the world at anytime he pleases. Through a series of odd events, Rice discovers there are others like him called Jumpers. Not only that, but there's a war going on between said Jumpers, and Paladins, religious fanatics who destroy Jumpers.

While the plot seems interesting enough, this spin-off seemed more like a knock-off with its gaping plot holes. There's no climax, so some viewers left the theatre a bit deflated rather than thrilled. Not many viewers know that Rice's teleportation abilities are due to a genetic anomaly unless they've read Gould's novel. Actually, there are a plethora of differences between the novel and the movie. But, this is a typical characteristic of contemporary spin-offs.

If viewers don't mind a little internal inconsistency, there are fast cars, flying buses, and ever sexy Hayden Christensen. Veteran actor Samuel L. Jackson gave a performance that was up to par as Roland Cox, one of the Paladins hunting Rice. Violent interactions between another jumper named Griffin (played by Jamie Bell) and Cox are the slice of pie sweet enough to make this movie action packed goodness.



The official movie poster for *Jumper*.

Photograph courtesy of www.jumperthemovie.com

The jump scenes are seamed flawlessly, and the graphics will have any viewers wishing they could jump at least once. With shots taken in Tokyo, Rome, and Toronto, jump sites are the next best thing to a plane ticket.

This film raked in $56,264,386 at the box office. Overall, the PG-13 sci-fi adventure is 90 minutes of world-hopping fun. The exact date of DVD release is unknown, but those wishing to brush up on their geography should expect it soon.

Events for March

The Farmer's Market
Date: Saturday, March 8
Time: 9:00am-2:00pm
Where: Olde Courthouse Square

Strawberry Festival
Date: Saturday, March 8
Time: 11:00am-7:00pm
Info: 352-567-2591
Where: The First Presbyterian Church on Church Ave.

60th Anniversary Flower Show
Date: Saturday, March 14-Sunday, March 15
Where: Dade City Garden Club

Maine Street Music & Street Faire
Date: Saturday, March 15
Time: 10:00am-7:00pm
Where: Dade City

Spring Antique Faire
Date: Saturday, March 29-Sunday, March 30
Where: Dade City

Renaissance Festival
Date: Every weekend until April 6
Time: 10:00am-6:00pm
Where: North Tampa
Info: www.renaissancefest.com

Bedingfield's got more than 'sunshine' in her 'pocket'

BY CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Writer

Natasha Bedingfield, sister of recording artist Daniel Bedingfield, has taken the recording world by storm on the British charts and then the American charts. Bedingfield, a native of New Zealand with a childhood in the eastern part of London, England, wasted no time before recording her first album, *Unwritten.* With singles like "These Words," "Single," and "Unwritten," the theme song for the MTV hit series *The Hills*, Bedingfield quickly made a name for herself with her rhythmic pop sounds and soulful words.

But, Bedingfield didn't stop there; she continued her career by embellishing her unique genre, and on January 22 of this year, along with the help of Epic Records, she introduced a new album called *Pocket Full of Sunshine.* This album, like its name, has just enough brightness and happiness for everyone.

Although, Bedingfield isn't the only one who deserves a little credit for the success of this album. Jamaican rap artist, Sean Kingston, made an appearance in the very popular Billboard chart single, "Love Like This," and lead singer of Maroon 5, Adam Levine, joined voice with Bedingfield in "Say it Again." Despite these accomplished artists, Bedingfield combined the best elements from R&B, pop, and soul, to create a collection of songs that goes far beyond her previous album to benefit her listeners and help her gain the respect she deserves as a chart topper.

This blue-eyed soul singer has created the perfect beats for working out, for a day at the beach with the convertible top down, and for singing along. On the other hand, there is nothing to say men won't be as tied to this album as women are. There are some suggestive songs that would promote the empowerment of women.

This isn't such a bad thing. After we put away the soft romance from John Mayor and the vulgarity of some rap songs, Bedingfield gives her listeners a little bit of confidence, encouragement, and power to pack in their pocket. Bedingfield does take it down a notch with the independent attitude and tries to keep the love alive with a few songs like "Soulmate" and "Put Your Arms Around Me" that have wedding song potential.

It seems Bedingfield has a hard time figuring out how to express her true thoughts of love and relationships and too many words for the independent woman; however, she packages her openhearted thoughts with bubbliness, great melodies, and poppy dance beats. This sophomore release is bound to be a radio favorite, and if "Freckles" is one of those favorites listeners will be heard mumbling the lyrics for a couple days.

Bedingfield's message to her audience is a playful one. She wraps her loving life lyrics around reggae rhythms, slaps a sassy picture of the European beauty on the cover and lets the music rise to the top.

Faire Thee Well

BY THOMAS SCAGLIONE III
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The May pole has been erected, the gypsies have begun to dance, and the dragons have been slain. The Good King calls all of Saint Leo's beautiful maidens and heroic lords to celebrate the magic of Tampa's 2008 Renaissance Festival!

The event, hosted by the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), celebrates all things medieval. The eclectic atmosphere of street and stage performers, kings and queens of different tongues and dress, and the occasional guitar strumming ogre or frolicking faerie will burn the day's activities into memories as occasion that will surely never be forgotten…coming off as an imagined daydream more than anything.

The festival provides a wide arrange of activities for all ages and trades. Whether a person is the adventurous knight in search of that perfect weapon to add to his collection, or the laid back, middle class peasant just out to browse the work of the local craftsmen and watch the shows of fellow peons, there is always more to be experienced at the fair.

The Fair runs from February 23 to April 6 and features many theme weekends that range from a Chocolate Extravaganza (March 1 and 2) to Buccaneer Beer Fest (April 5 and 6). The normal ticket cost is around $17, but a simple walk over to the MOSI ticket window will save you a quick and easy 3 bucks. For more info or advanced ticket sales, please visit www.renaissancefest.com.

FX sensation *Dirt* returns somewhat cleaner than last season

BY MICHEAL DOWDAL
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

On March 3, *Dirt* returned to the airwaves of FX, landing with a colorful splash in the normally bland Sunday night time slot. *Dirt* is a scintillating spoof of the culture of Hollywood and the idol-worship in which Americans regularly engage. The second season promises to deliver even more parodies of famous stars and scandals than the first, as seen by the whirlwind marketing blitz that preceded the premiere.

Sunday nights are a big change for *Dirt*, Dirt was a denizen of the Tuesday night time slot in its 2007 debut season, where it gained rave reviews and a cult-like following. The success of the first season led to its hasty re-signing for the 2008 season. Production of the show was hampered by the 2007-2008 Writer's Guild Strike, however, resulting in a limited season of only seven episodes. This may cause some plotlines to be cut short or altered for the sake of ending the season properly, rather than having an abrupt and unfitting season finale.

The heavy marketing of the premiere adorned the station with stylized graphics deliberately designed to resemble that of a comic book. A strangely blue-haired comic book version of Courtney Cox was seen commenting on various insane antics committed by generic celebrity types: a starlet walking down the red carpet who forgot her panties, an actor whose antics result in his mugshot being sent to the tabloids, and several other stereotypes animated the screen with their scandalous activities.

Dirt follows tabloid newspaper *DirtNow* as it chronicles the underbelly of Hollywood, gossiping on the stars and catching candid photos of celebrities at their worst. The publication often gets itself into trouble, however, as several of the seedier types in Hollywood get involved, attempting to save themselves from embarrassment and scandal through ways that are often far from legal and ethical. Lucy Spiller (Cox), the editor, has to deal with the crises that confront not only Hollywood but her own personal life, in addtion to running the hot publication. Her best friend is the paper's lead photographer, the well-mannered but disturbed Don Konkey (portrayed by Ian Hart).

The premiere itself saw the show pick up on the shocking cliffhanger of *Dirt*'s first season, with a vengeful disgraced actress attacking Spiller, seemingly leaving her fatally wounded on the driveway in front of her Los Angeles townhouse. Lucy awakes from a lengthy coma from which it was thought she'd never recover; she now attempts to return to the helm of her magazine *DirtNow*, hoping to increase the glory of revenue of the paper. Lucy deals with the complications of both her injuries, and of her newfound fear in the wake of the attack.

One thing to note is a general change in the tone of the show. Though still possesing all the wit and self-referential humor of the previous season, there seems to be a marked shift in the humor, with a generally lighter and less-serious style. Last season seemed to possess a darker edge, with subplots involving murdering drug-dealers, sickness with worms, and schizophrenic delusions. This season has plotlines that show a more comedic side, with focuses on parodies of Paris Hilton, Britney Spears, and on the continued romance of Lucy Spiller and movie-star Holt McClaren. A seemingly-dropped storyline was that of Willa, who appeared to have become heir to Spiller's position in *DirtNow*, dying her hair black like Spiller. The season premiere looked to have forgotten all about that, with Willa once again being blonde and having no apparent change in her attitude at work or towards Lucy or other *DirtNow* staff members.

All in all, *Dirt* seems to be much tamer than the previous season; though, in the seven episode-run, this could possibly change or become more intense. After all, this is a fairly common practice in television shows, especially ones with he twist and turns of shows like This will all be seen as the story of *Dirt* progresses.All is not lost, however: Dirt can and still will get dirty when the occasion calls for it.

String quartet amazes audience

BY KATIE GAISER
Layout Editor

On Monday, February 18, Saint Leo hosted a winter concert starring the Arpeggione String Quartet. Both pleasing to the eyes and ears, this fabulous quartet preformed four pieces of musical genius in the Student Community Center's ballroom.

The quartet consisted of two violins, a viola, and a cello. Ranging from that familiarity of Mozart to an uncommon hoe-down, the quartet offered a wide arrangement of music for the crowd. They played beautifully in sync, each player complementing one another's talent throughout the night.

This performance was enjoyable to all, and it was good to see a different kind of musical program offered on campus. Impressing all that attended, the quartet brilliantly played sweet music that will never be forgotten.

Sweet dreams?Not likely

BY BRANDY SCAGLIONE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

"We each went to Danvers State Hospital, the old abandoned asylum on the hill, with the intention of spending one night before the place got torn down. Little did any of us know how haunting the experience would be. Little did I know the experience would change my life. Forever."

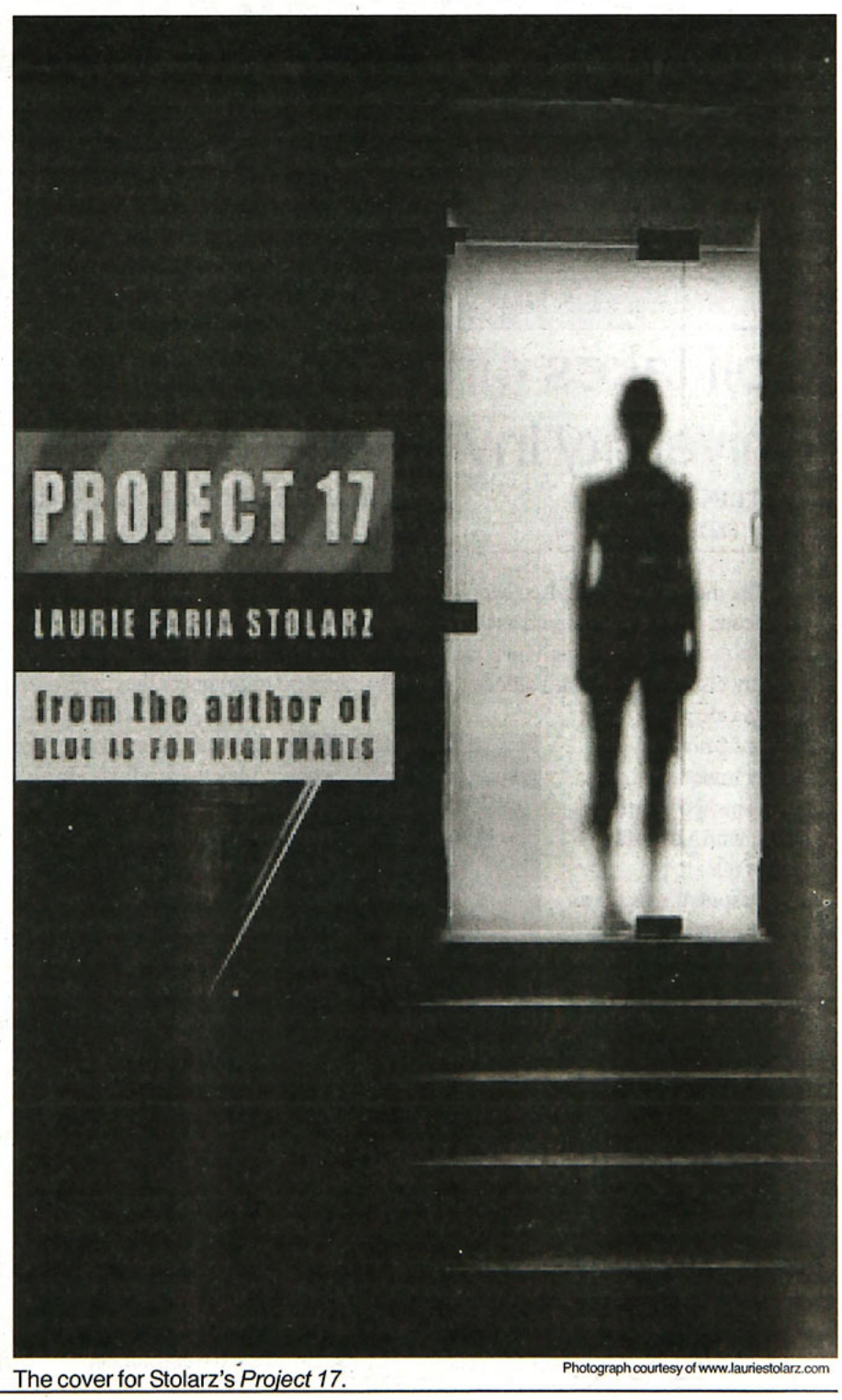
Those lingering thoughts would forever be etched in Derik LaPointe's mind after he took several peers to stay the night in an infamous hospital.

Laurie Faria Stolarz's most recent work *Project 17* is a real page-turner and leaves the reader with a haunting feeling at the conclusion of each chapter. The author of the *Blue is for Nightmares* series, Stolarz has once again blended teenage angst with just a hint of terror, the perfect recipe that leaves the reader checking under his bed before he falls asleep. At only 248 pages, *Project 17* is a guaranteed quick read for fans of young adult authors like Libba Bray, Meg Cabot and Stephanie Meyer. Stolarz's eerie descriptions of the abandoned hospital and patients' remnants brings the story from pages in a book right into the reader's own bedroom, making the reader feel as if he is walking through the asylum himself.

Atop Hawthorne Hill (named after John Hawthorne, a judge during the Salem Witch Trials) in Massachusetts lies the infamous Danvers State Hospital. Danvers State was a real asylum that was built back in 1878 but has been abandoned since 1992. It is said that the Danvers State Hospital was the birthplace of the lobotomy. With graffiti and patient's art adorning the walls, finding this abandoned hospital anything but haunting is impossible. Five thrill seeking high school students, just outside of Boston, decide to become a part of Derik's first short film: a documentary about the haunted insane asylum.

On the eve of the asylum's demolition, six students trespass into the asylum to stay the night and film their experience. The cast has a very familiar feel of the high school caste system apparent in movies like *Mean Girls* and *The Breakfast Club*. Derik (the suave, good-looking jock) wants to create a film in the hopes of winning contest money, so that he can attend film school instead of working the rest of his life in his family's diner. Derik's best friend Chet acts as the comedic relief for this edge-of-your-seat read, making inappropriate jokes and pranks about the other characters through the story. Mimi (the gothic outcast) joins Derik's film because she wanted to finally visit the landmark before its demolition and find out more about a family member who once was a patient. Tony and Greta are the classic thespian couple who joins the cast of Derik's documentary in order to hog the limelight and try to gain fame. The last of this sextet is the pretty, yet geeky, girl named Liza, who only joins because she needs more extracurricular activities on her school application to Harvard.

Derik and his group were looking for an exciting night full of unbelievable footage; well they found it… and much, much more!



The cover for Stolarz's *Project 17*.
Photograph courtesy of www.lauriestolarz.com

Sports

Photo Credit: Mike Carlson

Amanda Holloway stands with coach and 1000 points under her belt at the end of her college career.

This is Ladies Night

Photo Credit: Mike Carlson

Latasha Lawrence stands with assistant and head coach to mark the end of her career at Saint Leo.

and it feels alright

Despite their efforts on the court, Holloway and Lawrence have brought their own personal touches to the Saint Leo campus. Holloway hit a career total of 1000 points on home grounds. Lawrence scored a career high 12 points twice during her junior year. Even as a transfer, Lawrence has enough likeness to bring all of her gifts to the Saint Leo program. Holloway spent her entire college career with the Lions and has left a long standing impression. Both players have had their best intentions at heart, while dedicating themselves to the progress of the women's basketball team. Both will be missed next seasons, and the seasons to come.

Golf takes 4th in Thomas University Invitational

CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sporst Editor

The men on the Saint Leo Men's Golf team are as collaborated as the clubs in the their golf bags. The team recently just returned from Valdosta, Georgia after the Thomas University Winter Invitational. The team finished fourth as a whole with a two-day total of 606.

Photograph Mike Carlson

Despite the fact the team's initial goal after the first day was to move up to second or first place, they were unable to pull that out, but a collective score of 299 at the end of Monday's round broke the tie they held with Edward Waters College.

"We started the first day in fourth, and we really wanted to move further up to take first or second, but things didn't work out that way. As a team, we were happy that we took fourth because it was the first tournament of the year. I think there were about 12 teams overall, so fourth definitely shows that we have potential," said returning member, Senior Chris Marinaro.

This year's team has great expectations for themselves. They say that the next tournament they will take nothing but first place, or at least they will strive to play to earn first. The team has every capability of winning.

"Our golf team has been playing really well. We have four tournaments left, so we're really concentrating and staying focused so we can bring back a win for Saint Leo. I believe that our team is just as good as any team in our conference," said Marinaro.

With golfers like Marinaro and Cole Cisbani, a sophomore who ended two under par on the final round of the past tournament, the Lions are sure to take a slice out of their conference this year. Of course, the team is expecting a few divots, but they have confidence.

Men's team goes all out for last regular season games

CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

Men's basketball went 1-1 in their last two home conference games. Even though the men's seniors, Jonathan Banks and George Eshesimua, were honored before the beginning of the game, the Lions fell hard to Eckerd College losing by more than 20 points. Too bad the Lions couldn't roll over some of those extra points they scored in their last game against Barry University earlier in the week. The Lions overshot Barry by 14 points to take the win at home. The Lions do have one more away game, to help redeem themselves from their previous loss, against conference rival Florida Tech.

The win against Barry was one for the books. The Lions came out more than just on top. The Lions outscored Barry with no room for error. Sophomores Jordan Prais and Quentin Cullop gave a high flying performance that helped lead the Lions to a critical win.The Lions gave new meaning to the term second half team, and this game was no substitute. As usual they left fans on the edge of their seats as the clock ticked down and the Lions had more than a comfortable lead. Between accuracy on and off the line, the Lions sealed the deal at the final 15 minutes of the half, when the deficit was no less than 6 points.

Photograph by Caitlin Craft

Banks stands with family and coach during his senior night ceremony.

Photograph by Caitlin Craft

Saint Leo announcer no longer worries about messing up Eshesimua's name.

Despite the Lion's performance against Eckerd, the night could not have been more memorable for the Lions two seniors, Banks and Eshesimua. Both players have made their own separate contribution to the men's basketball team. Banks came in as a transfer, and Eshesimua, despite a knee injury, stuck it out with the Lions for a fifth year. Eshesimua, a communications major, sure knew how to communicate all his skills on and off the court. Banks bought himself double figures seven times last season, and fans can take that to the bank. Both of these players have made their mark on the court and on campus. They will be missed.

Lacrosse nails first win

CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

Spring season, lacrosse season is the time of year that makes the blood stir in the young and hungry members of the Lions Lacrosse team, and this year the team plans on spilling more blood than stirring. The Saint Leo athletic department is entering its third year as one of the first four-year private or public schools to have a Division II men's varsity Lacrosse team.

Despite their late blooming into the Saint Leo tradition, the Lions have made a decent start to their 2008 season with a record of 1-1. In the first two seasons, the Lions held a similar record in the beginning of the season, but Head Coach Brad Jorgensen hopes this season brings a more successful outcome.

"Our team's goals for the season are pretty simple. We expect to be playing in the NCAA tournament in May. While we also hope to capture a Deep South Lacrosse Conference championship," said Jorgensen.

So far, the Lions are off to a very competitive start. The Lions nailed their season opener at home against the Savannah College of Art and Design 16-4. Unfortunately, the Lions fell to defeat during their second game against Dowling College, who was No. 5 team. But Jorgensen has faith that the team's schedule and new additions to the team will continue to flourish and eventually form a mold of a competitive team.

"We are fortunate enough to have a very competitive schedule that allows us to realistically attack that goal. We have many new faces on the roster that all have had an impact on the team, including two players from Division I Robert Morris University, Alec Rahe and Kyle Marceau, and a member of Nassau Community College's 2007 National Runner-Up team, Ryan Pomponio," said Jorgensen.

With all of these elements working with the team, the Lions are bound to surprise all of their fans with a banger year.

Photograph by Mike Carlson

Junior Benjamin Brigham, was one of four to score in the past game.